

## Prayers

*At the end...*

Merciful God, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our saviour taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son;  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son:  
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.  
Let the church with gladness,  
hymns of triumph sing;  
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life!  
Life is nought without thee; aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors,  
through thy deathless love:  
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

### Blessing

May God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to all who believe the gates of everlasting life.  
May God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give us joy as we share the Easter faith.  
May God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower us and fill us with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia**



## A Service for Easter Day

### Welcome

### Introduction

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life. Throughout the world, Christians celebrate the awesome power of God. As we hear his word and proclaim all God has done, we can be confident that we will share his victory over death and live with him for ever.

### Opening Prayer

Risen Lord,  
in the stillness and wonder of this moment,  
we hardly dare to believe that you are indeed alive!

Yet our hearts are filling with faith, hope and love, and our souls are beginning to believe!  
Wonderful Lord, we fall on our knees with thanksgiving.

**Amen**

### Lighting of the Easter Candle

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
Banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ:  
**Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Christ is Risen:  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

### Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia.*  
our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia.*  
who did once, upon the cross, *Alleluia.*  
suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia.*

Hymns of praise then let us sing, *Alleluia.*  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, *Alleluia.*  
who endured the Cross and grave, *Alleluia.*  
sinners to redeem and save. *Alleluia.*

But the pains that he endured, *Alleluia.*  
our salvation have procured; *Alleluia.*  
now above the sky he's King, *Alleluia.*  
where the angels ever sing. *Alleluia*

### **Saying Sorry to God**

*We reflect back on our last week remembering those things we wish we had done differently.*

### **Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The Collect (prayer for today)**

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell:  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Bible Reading**

The Easter Story

This is the word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Reflection**

*We reflect on what God is saying to us through Scripture, with words and silence or music.*

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven  
And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem  
I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe  
And the pharisee,  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen,  
For James and John  
They came with me  
And the Dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame;  
The holy people  
Said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung me on high,  
And they left me there  
On a Cross to die.

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black  
It's hard to dance  
With the devil on your back.  
They buried my body  
And they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the Dance,  
And I still go on.

They cut me down  
And I leapt up high;  
I am the life  
That'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you  
If you'll live in me -  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance, said he.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

### **The Creed**

Let us say what we believe...

We believe in God the Father from whom  
every family in heaven and on earth is named.

**We believe.**

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our  
hearts  
through faith, and fills us with his love.

**We believe.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.

**We believe in one God:**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

*(based on Ephesians 3)*